

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**STANDING ORDER IN CIVIL CASES
Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers**

UPDATED NOVEMBER 15, 2012

1. Conformity to Rules. Parties are expected to consult and comply with all provisions of the Local Rules and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure relating to motions, briefs, continuances, and all other matters, unless specifically superseded by this Standing Order. Any failure to comply with any of the rules and the Court's Standing Order may be deemed sufficient grounds for monetary sanctions, dismissal, entry of default judgment, or other appropriate sanctions. Parties are advised that this Standing Order is subject to change without notice and that they should check for the latest revisions on the Court's website at <http://cand.uscourts.gov/ygrorders>.

2. Scheduling days. Prior to noticing a motion, parties shall check the scheduling information on this Court's website to confirm open and available dates. However, noticed days may be reset as the Court's calendar requires, with order of call to be determined by the Court. Generally, the Court will schedule as follows:

- a. Case Management Conferences are conducted on Mondays at 2:00 p.m.
- b. Civil Law and Motion calendar is conducted on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.
- c. Pretrial conferences are conducted on Fridays at 9:00 a.m. Trials are set to commence on Mondays at 8:30 a.m.
- d. Before appearing for a matter before this Court, all parties shall check the Court's calendar at www.cand.uscourts.gov or the posting in the Clerk's Office to confirm that their matter is still on calendar. Frequently, the Court will issue a written order and vacate the hearing unless oral argument appears to be necessary. Where argument is allowed, the Court will attempt to advise counsel in advance of the issues to be addressed. In addition, if a written request for oral argument is filed, before issuance of a ruling, stating that a lawyer four or fewer years out of law school will conduct all or most of the oral argument, the Court will entertain oral argument on the principle that young lawyers need more opportunities for appearances than they typically receive.

3. Changes to Court Calendar. No changes to the Court's schedule shall be made except by signed order of the Court and only upon a showing of good cause. Parties seeking to continue hearings, request special status conferences, modify briefing schedules, or make any other procedural changes shall submit a signed stipulation and proposed order, or, if stipulation is not possible, a Motion for Administrative Relief, as contemplated by Civil Local Rule 7-11. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause, particularly focusing on evidence of diligence by the party seeking delay and of prejudice that may result if the continuance is denied. Briefing schedules may not be changed by stipulation. The parties must

obtain leave of court. Parties seeking to enlarge a filing deadline by way of a Motion for Administrative Relief are admonished to file such a motion in advance of the filing deadline, rather than on the day a brief or other matter is due. ***Parties are advised that requests which, in effect, do not allow the Court two weeks from the filing of the last brief until the scheduled hearing date are denied routinely.***

4. Notice of Hearing Location/Construction. Parties shall notice hearings for appearance at the Oakland courthouse. The exact courtroom location will be assigned the day of the hearing.

5. Chambers Copies. A chambers copy of all documents filed, whether electronically filed or manually filed at the Clerk's Office, shall be submitted to the Clerk's Office in an envelope clearly marked with the case number and "YGR Chambers Copy" for receipt no later than 12:00 noon the second business day after the document is filed. Submission by overnight delivery such as Federal Express or UPS is sufficient.

a. **All chambers' copies must be 3-hole punched** in the left margin in a manner suitable for placement in a 3-ring binder.

b. Chambers copies **must include tabs between exhibits** and must fasten or attach pages of individual documents together so as to distinguish between separate documents. Please do not use bottom tabs as they do not work well in binders.

c. In addition to the above, **if the initial complaint, notice of removal or petition exceeds 100 pages including exhibits**, the filing party shall submit a Chambers Copy **in a 3-ring binder**. The binder shall include a label on the spine in the following format and placed so that it can be read horizontally:

Case No.
Short Title
Chambers Copy

This requirement applies to cases reassigned to Judge Gonzalez Rogers, including cases reassigned as a result of declination to proceed before a magistrate judge.

This requirement does not apply to habeas corpus petitions or Social Security cases.

d. Chambers copies submitted without meeting the above requirements may be rejected, and the party may be required to re-submit.

6. Case Management Conference. Joint case management statements are required and must be filed seven days in advance of the initial case management conference date. Updated joint case management statements are required and must be filed seven days in advance of all other case management conferences. In cases involving pro se litigants, the parties may file separate case management statements. The format shall follow the Standing Order for All Judges of the Northern District of California re: Contents of Joint Case Management Statement ("CAND CMC Order") found on the Court's website at <http://cand.uscourts.gov/ygr>.

These conferences are intended to be substantive and productive. Accordingly, each party shall be represented at case management conferences by counsel with authority to enter into stipulations and make admissions pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(a) and (c), as well as fully prepared to address all of the matters in the CAND CMC Order and Civil L.R. 16-10(b). Failure to do so shall be considered grounds for sanctions.

7. Proposed Orders Required. Each party filing or opposing any motion shall also serve a proposed order that sets forth the relief or action sought and a short statement of the rationale of the decision, including citation of authority that the party requests the Court to adopt, and citations to the record evidence where applicable. The proposed order should be submitted at the same time as the motion or opposition with a courtesy copy emailed to YGRpo@cand.uscourts.gov.

8. Discovery and Discovery Motions.

a. Except as specifically set forth below, no motions regarding discovery disputes may be filed without prior leave of Court. If a dispute arises during a deposition and involves a persistent obstruction of the deposition or a refusal to answer a material question on the basis of any ground other than privilege or the work product doctrine, counsel may arrange a telephonic conference with the Court through contact with the Courtroom Deputy, Frances Stone, at (510) 637-3540. Any such conference shall be attended by the court reporter recording the deposition.

b. All other requests for discovery relief must be summarized jointly by the parties in one *joint* letter brief no longer than four pages. In the joint letter brief, counsel must attest that, prior to filing the request for relief, counsel met and conferred *in person*, and then concisely summarize all remaining issues that counsel were unable to resolve. The parties may not file multiple joint letter briefs. The joint letter brief may cite to limited and specific legal authority only for resolution of dispositive issues. The joint letter brief may not be accompanied by declarations; however any specific excerpt of disputed discovery material may be attached. The Court will then advise the parties if additional briefing, a telephonic conference, or a personal appearance will be necessary.

Note: Discovery letter briefs must be e-filed under the Civil Events category of Motions and Related Filings > Motions - General > “Discovery Letter Brief.”

c. This provision applies only to cases in which discovery is supervised by this Court rather than the magistrate judge. The Court, at its discretion, may elect to transfer discovery matters to a magistrate judge or a special master.

9. Motions for Summary Judgment.

a. **Pre-filing Conference Required:** Except as specifically set forth below, no motion for summary judgment pursuant to Rule 56 of the Rules of Civil Procedure may be filed without prior leave of Court. The moving party must file a letter, with a copy to Chambers and the opposing parties, to request a pre-filing conference, and propose a date and time for such conference. Pre-filing conferences are normally set for Wednesday or Friday afternoons at 2:00 p.m. unless circumstances and the Court’s calendar require otherwise, and should be requested

sufficiently in advance of the deadlines established in the Court’s initial case management order. Telephonic appearances will not be allowed.

The moving party’s letter shall be submitted at least seven (7) business days prior to the proposed conference date and must explain the grounds for the motion. The letter shall be no more than three single-spaced pages in length, *including* any attached exhibits or other supporting papers. Within three (3) business days after receipt of the letter, any adversary wishing to oppose the motion must file a written response addressing the substance of the moving party’s letter, with a copy to Chambers and the moving party. This response shall also be limited to three single-spaced pages, *including* any attached exhibits or supporting papers.

This pre-filing requirement does not apply to *either side* in cases where one party is *pro se* (self-represented). This pre-filing requirement does not apply to habeas corpus petitions and motions in Social Security cases.

b. **One Motion Per Side:** All issues shall be contained within one motion, may not exceed twenty-five pages in length, and shall conform to Civil Local Rule 7-2. Only one summary judgment motion may be filed per side, absent leave of court. Leave of court may be sought if multiple parties comprise one or both sides. This issue will be addressed at the Pre-filing Conference.

c. **Separate Statements:** Any party moving for summary judgment or opposing summary judgment is required to submit a separate statement as set forth herein.

1. **Supporting Separate Statement:** Parties moving for summary judgment must include a separate, short and concise statement of the material facts as to which the moving party contends there is no genuine issue to be tried (“Supporting Separate Statement”). The Supporting Separate Statement must: (1) identify the issue or claim number(s) to which the fact relates; and (2) list each asserted material fact and the record evidence (e.g., deposition, declaration, discovery response). Upon filing, the moving party shall provide the separate statement to all other parties in an electronic, word-processing format for ease of response thereto. The Supporting Separate Statement must follow this format:

| Issue No. | Moving Party’s Undisputed Material Facts and Supporting Evidence | Opposing Party’s Response and Supporting Evidence |
|--|--|---|
| Issue 1 (Doe cannot establish breach of contract) | Fact 1. Doe Co. and Acme Co. entered into a written contract for sale of widgets. Roe Declaration at 2:17-21 and Exh. A [contract]. | |
| Issue 1 | Fact 2. Widgets were received by Doe’s headquarters on December 1, 2010. Roe Declaration at 3:14-19 and Exh. B [signed invoice]. | |

2. Responsive Separate Statement: The papers opposing a motion for summary judgment shall include *one* Responsive Separate Statement which: (1) incorporates the facts in the moving separate statement; (2) provides a response to each of the facts in the correspondingly numbered paragraph in the moving separate statement; and (3) identifies any *additional* material facts that the party contends will establish a genuine issue to be tried. This Responsive Separate Statement shall indicate as to each fact whether the party contends the fact is “disputed” or “undisputed.” If the opposing party contends that the fact is in dispute, the party must cite to evidence in the record which establishes the dispute. Responsive Separate Statements must follow this format:

| Issue No. | Moving Party’s Undisputed Material Facts and Supporting Evidence | Opposing Party’s Response and Supporting Evidence |
|--|--|--|
| Issue 1 (Doe Co. cannot establish breach of contract) | <u>Fact 1.</u> Doe Co. and Acme Co. entered into a written contract for sale of widgets. Roe Declaration at 2:17-21 and Exh. A [contract]. | Undisputed. |
| Issue 1 | <u>Fact 2.</u> Widgets were received by Doe Co.’s headquarters on December 1, 2010. Roe Declaration at 3:14-19 and Exh. B [signed invoice]. | Disputed. No widgets were received. Jackson Declaration, Exh. B [Deposition of Bob Smith] at 21:04-23:19. |
| OPPOSING PARTY’S ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FACTS | | |
| Issue 1 | | <u>Additional Fact 3:</u> An empty crate was delivered to Doe Co.’s headquarters on December 1, 2010. Jackson Declaration, Exh. B [Deposition of Bob Smith] at 32:06-33:12. |

Each numbered paragraph in the moving separate statement of material facts will be deemed to be admitted for purposes of the motion unless specifically controverted by a correspondingly numbered paragraph in the responsive separate statement.

3. Page Limits for Separate Statements: Unless a party has obtained prior permission from this Court, the Supporting Separate Statement is limited to no more than fifteen (15) pages, and the Responsive Separate Statement is limited to no more than five (5) additional pages beyond the number of pages in the opening statement.

4. Attestation Required for Separate Statements: The Supporting and Responsive Separate Statement each **must be signed** by counsel (or a party, if proceeding in pro per) who has reviewed the document and can attest as follows:

“I attest that the evidence cited herein fairly and accurately supports [or disputes] the facts as asserted.”

d. **Cross-Motions:** Any cross-motion for summary judgment shall be contained within the opposition to any motion for summary judgment, shall contain twenty-five (25) pages or less, and shall be filed fourteen (14) days after the filing of the motion. The reply to a motion may contain up to fifteen (15) pages, shall include the opposition to any cross-motion, and shall be filed seven (7) days after the filing of the opposition. (See Civil Local Rule 7-3). The Court may, *sua sponte* or pursuant to a motion under Civil L.R. 6-3, reschedule the hearing so as to give a moving party time to file a reply to any cross-motion.

e. **Chambers copies:** Chambers copies of all summary judgment motions and oppositions (including the brief, separate statement, declarations, exhibits, and other supporting documents) are required to be provided by the filing party in a 3-ring binder or binders with tabs separating documents. Submitting chambers copies of the reply documents in a binder is optional. *This requirement does not apply to habeas corpus petitions or Social Security cases.*

10. Communication with Court. Counsel shall not attempt to contact Judge Gonzalez Rogers or her chambers staff by telephone, facsimile, or any other *ex parte* means, but may contact her **Courtroom Deputy, Frances Stone, at (510) 637-3540** with appropriate inquiries. Counsel should list their facsimile transmission numbers as well as their telephone numbers on their papers to facilitate communication with the Courtroom Deputy. All counsel listed on the parties' briefing must be fully apprised of the status of the pending matter and must be authorized to respond to calendar settings by the Court.

11. Removed Cases. The removing defendant shall, within five (5) days of filing of the notice of removal, submit to Chambers a copy of all pleadings filed in the state court, three-hole punched in the manner required above for all other Chambers Copies, and placed in a binder and labeled on the spine as set forth in Paragraph 5(c) above.

12. Service of Standing Orders. Plaintiff (or in the case of removed cases, any removing defendant) is directed to serve copies of this Standing Order in Civil Cases and the CAND CMC Order at once upon all parties to their action, and upon those subsequently joined, in accordance with the provisions of Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Rules 4 and 5, and to file with the Clerk of the Court a certificate reflecting such service, in accordance with Civil Local Rule 5-6(a).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: November 15, 2012


YVONNE GONZALEZ ROGERS
United States District Judge